

OSCILLATOR

OTVARC



1998 - TWENTIETH
ANNIVERSARY
YEAR

Oregon Tualatin Valley Amateur Radio Club (Est. 1978) November 1998

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Betty, N7REX

November's meeting is an important one. We are still looking for a few good hams to run for office. All of the positions except Vice-president has at least one candidate running. The vice-presidential position is a very important one in the club, as he/she is the primary person who is responsible for the general meeting programs. JD has done an excellent job rounding up interesting speakers. It has been a shame that his work schedule has precluded him from attending a lot of the meetings. He has put in lots of hours behind the scenes setting things up. If you or someone you know is interested in the job, please give Dick Welk, KB7EWX, or me, a call. It would be great to start the open nominations with a full slate of potential officers.

To date the candidates are as follows:

| | |
|----------------|------------------------|
| President | Betty Mickley, N7REX |
| Vice-president | open |
| Treasurer | Hanford VanNess, KE7BB |
| Secretary | Mike McDonald, KC7YSW |
| Trustees (2) | Dick Booth, W7VPB |
| | Will Sheffield, N7THL |
| | Jack Smithson KA7HOJ |

October was a busy month for club members. The first Sea*Pac 1999 co-chairperson meeting has taken place. The Boy Scout Jamboree-On-The-Air found the OTVARC trailer out on a farm on Bull mountain. Thanks to club members Will Sheffield, N7THL; Eric Margeson, KA6OSN and Jack Smithson, KA7HOJ, the 50 or so cub scouts and boy scouts got a chance to experience the excitement of amateur radio. Hopefully an article about the adventure will be in next months newsletter.

The October camp out was in Ilwako Washington. The weather was passable. Friday evening was warm enough (and dry enough) to have a campfire. The food is always abundant and de-

licious. The location was close enough for driving on the beach at Long Beach or looking around in all the interesting shops. November's camp out will be closer to home and we hope to have many club members come down for the potluck. It is our annual turkey dinner. Our head wagon master will miss the event this year - unfortunately, Barb and Tom will be on vacation.

The OTVARC for lunch bunch dined at the Olive Garden. All who participated had a good meal and great company. Thanks to Harold, WA0BRU, and Julie Landers who do an excellent job locating great places to eat.

Our first (in a long time) beginning ham radio class was a huge success. Thanks to Jim Mockley, AB7XD, and Janet Bell, WB7FJC, who organized and conducted the class. The class was followed by a successful VE session with all participants completing at least some part of the requirements for getting their licenses. Carl Clawson, WS7L, and his crew do a wonderful job. They were very busy at

(Continued on page 8, first column)

NEXT MEETING

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 11TH

This meeting will have two programs. The first will involve the up-coming Officer/Trustee election. The second will be a presentation and practice session on how to send ARES messages during times of emergency. Message blanks containing the ARRL format will be distributed and members will practice filling them in with message information. Since La Nina is coming at us this winter, this seems like a good time for refreshing our message sending abilities. It should be interesting - come on down!

W7OTV 146.960 (RPTR) WWW.EASYSTREET.COM/OTVARC

GAMMA RAY BURST BRIEFLY AFFECTS PROPAGATION

From The ARRL Letter
By N1IRZ, Dave

Insomniac hams in the Western US might have witnessed the effects of a startling cosmic event in the wee hours of August 27. And those hams' logbooks may hold information scientists want.

For five minutes, starting at 1022 UTC on August 27, HF propagation changed dramatically for the Western US and Pacific area. "It was as if night was briefly turned into day in the ionosphere," said Stanford professor Umran Inan, leader of a research group that observed the event. That means that your 40 or 80-meter DX QSO may have suddenly faded away, and, for a short time, you could have worked DX on 20 or 15 meters, or maybe even higher frequencies, in the middle of the night.

On HF, Inan said the MUF should have risen to daytime levels for about five minutes. Inan said he'd very much like to hear if any hams noticed the effect.

The cause was a tremendous burst of gamma-rays and X-rays coming from a newly-discovered star type some 15,000 light-years away. The burst of radiation from the distant star was powerful enough to boost the level of ionization in Earth's upper atmosphere from nighttime to daytime levels, according to the Stanford research group.

This was the first time that such a change in Earth's environment has been attributed to an event so far away. The star that emitted the burst is a magnetar, a superdense neutron star with the most powerful magnetic field ever found in the universe, a magnetic field strong enough to rip atoms apart.

The gamma and X-ray burst "lit up" Earth's ionosphere. Along with the burst a cloud of subatomic particles spewed from the star's surface at nearly the speed of light. Those particles spiraled around the magnetic field lines and emitted microwaves.

At the National Science Foundation's Very Large Array (VLA) radio telescope in New Mexico, astronomer Dale Frail, working with Caltech researchers Shri Kulkarni and Josh Bloom, detected the microwaves emitted by this cloud of particles at frequencies ranging from 1.4 to 8.4 GHz, and made a "movie" of the cloud as its radio emission brightened, then faded away.

The radiation burst affected the ionosphere over the Western US, but the Eastern part of the country was in shadow, so hams in the East would not have experienced the strange propagation effects. For more information, see the National Radio Astronomy Observatory's Web site at <http://www.nrao.edu/pr/magnetar.html> <>

Please welcome our new member!

Helen Turner, KC7OMO, who resides in Eagle Creek (that's out toward Estacada) joined OTVARC in September. You may recognize the call sign — she is a Control Operator on the 146.96Mhz repeater. Please help her become acquainted.

EARTH TO CROSS PATHS WITH RARE METEOR STORM

From The Oregonian
By Keay Davidson, San Francisco Examiner

In mid-November, the planet will pass through debris from the Leonid cloud, and space satellites will be vulnerable to damage

SAN FRANCISCO - A spectacular meteor storm will ignite the heavens in mid-November, possibly disrupting satellites and threatening services such as cellular phones, television broadcasts and data communications.

The last great meteor barrage was in 1966, when space satellites were far less common and far less essential to everyday life. Back then, thousands of meteors per minute shot across the North American sky.

Today the skies are jammed with satellites that aid in weather forecasting, relay data communications and TV signals and enable military surveillance.

Although the meteors are smaller than grains of sand, they travel tremendously fast - more than 40 miles per second, equivalent to a 10second flight from San Francisco to Los Angeles. As a result, they could knock out or disrupt some satellites' delicate electronics.

"This meteoroid storm will be the largest such threat ever experienced by our critical orbiting satellite constellations," William H. Ailor, director of the Center for Orbital and Reentry Debris Studies at the Aerospace Corp. in El Segundo, Calif., told the House Science Committee on May 21.

The 1966 storm appeared over continental North America. This year's main aerial assault will be visible from Japan, China, the Philippines and other parts of East Asia and possibly Hawaii. The meteors are debris from the comet Tempel-Tuttle.

Scientists from NASA's Ames Research Center in Mountain View, Calif., hope to study the shower from aircraft flying out of Japan, said Peter Jenniskens, the principal investigator at Ames. They

(Continued on page 3)

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(Continued from page 2 - METEOR STORM)

hope to broadcast live images of the shower via the World Wide Web.

The Leonid meteor shower is so named because the meteors appear to emanate from the direction of the constellation Leo. Actually, the shower is a cloud of rocky particles orbiting the sun.

Earth crosses the cloud's path every Nov. 17 and 18, providing a view of the Leonids zipping across the sky, sometimes several per minute.

Every 30-plus years, Earth crosses a particularly dense part of the Leonid cloud. So the shower becomes a storm, with as many as 40 meteors per second and sometimes 50,000 per hour.

Although very tiny, the particles move so fast that the friction with Earth's atmosphere will cause them to burn and glow. Visible from hundreds of miles away, they will look like fireworks in the sky.

NASA plans to turn the Hubble Space Telescope away from the storm so meteors that hit the telescope will miss its delicate mirror, NASA spokesman Don Savage said.

"NASA is taking (the shower) seriously," Savage said. "We have been assessing what we need to do to ensure our satellites in Earth orbit are going to be operated in a safe manner during this meteor shower."

Other satellites might be temporarily reoriented so that they present the smallest target.

"We are concerned, and we have been in meetings and making plans concerning the Leonid shower," said U.S. Army Maj. Mike Birmingham, a spokesman for the U.S. Space Command, which monitors American military and spy satellites.

Last month, an immense wave of radiation from a neutron star washed over Earth, causing at least two scientific satellites to shut down to protect their electronics.

Astronomers said the star, in a constellation about 20,000 light years away, had unleashed enough energy to power civilization for a billion billion years. But, by the time the radiation found its way across, the cosmos and through the Earth's atmosphere, it was no stronger than a typical dental X-ray, scientists said.

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OFFICER ELECTIONS COMING UP!

I think you will agree OTVARC is a great club! But, to continue to be a forward looking club offering many activities to all members, it needs to continue to have good people on the Board of Directors. Many elected positions are available. Please think about serving your club and members by offering a few hours of your time each month on the board. Nominations will be taken from the floor at the November meeting.

VICE DIRECTOR ELECTION

From: Mary Lou Brown, NM7N
Director, NW Div.

Elections for Director and Vice Director of the Northwestern Division

Director: Since, at the filing deadline in August, there was no one else running for Director besides myself, I have been declared elected for another two year term starting January 1, 1999.

Vice Director: There are two candidates running for Vice Director.
a. Greg Milnes, W7AGQ, the incumbent.
b. Mary Lewis, W7QGP

Ballots have been mailed from ARRL HQ and are **due back into HQ by Friday noon, Nov. 20th.**

(Ed. - Your marked ballot can be mailed at any time. I find that it is a good idea to mail the ballot back right away, that way it does not get lost and forgotten.

Remember, Greg, W7AGQ, is a long time OTVARC club member and is very good about coming to the meetings and filling us in on what's happening in Washington, D.C. and at ARRL Headquarters.)

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1999 ARRL HANDBOOK SHIPPING NOW

From The ARRL Letter

The 1999 edition of The ARRL Handbook for Radio Amateurs began shipping late in October. Last year's edition sold out, so consider ordering early. The 1999 Handbook includes several new projects, including a 40-A switching power supply, an HF amplifier (using a Svetlana 4CX1600B), an updated high-power antenna tuner, and a voice keyer.

Templates are back in this edition, too! Builders will find most of the circuit board templates available.

Published since 1926, this 76th edition of the Handbook continues its longstanding reputation as the standard in applied electronics and communications, used by radio amateurs and professionals alike. The 1200-page resource for electronic theory, data, and new projects is revised annually.

The 1999 edition of The ARRL Handbook for Radio Amateurs is still just \$32. Order item 1816. Call toll-free 888-277-5289 or visit ARRL Web, <http://www.arrl.org/>.

By the way, the 1998 edition of the Handbook remains available on CD-ROM!

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DOD MAY HELP SAVE HAM BANDS

From the Amateur Radio Newsline

A demand by the Department of Defense to be paid in advance for any spectrum that it agrees to reallocate may help protect the rights of radio amateurs. This is the result of the wording of the fiscal year 1999 Defense Authorization bill that says the Department of Defense will receive reimbursement from private companies seeking to buy sections of spectrum that agency was ordered to offer for auction.

But the kicker is that the costs associated with offering the spectrum for auction will be charged to the purchaser. Also the purchaser must compensate the Federal agency *in advance* for the expenses.

The estimated costs for such compensation could run into the billions of dollars and could lessen interest by many potential bidders. Since much of the spectrum that ham radio occupies is allocated to the Department of Defense, amateurs could see some worthwhile spectrum protection from this action on the part of the Defense Authorization Committee. <>

FCC RENEWS AMATEUR ENFORCEMENT EMPHASIS

From The ARRL Letter

Things may be changing for the better on the Amateur Radio enforcement front. The FCC announced this week that all Amateur Radio-related enforcement investigation, evaluation, and processing has been transferred to the Compliance and Information Bureau. The change, effective September 1 but not announced until more than three weeks later, was made "by internal arrangement" between the CIB and the FCC's Wireless Telecommunications Bureau. The Wireless Bureau handles amateur licensing and, for the past several years, has coordinated enforcement with the CIB.

The FCC said the main objective of the change was to "facilitate the Commission's pursuit of compliance," especially in the area of resolving interference complaints, a hot-button issue within the amateur community.

"Amateur enforcement should have gotten more direct attention over the last few years," conceded Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH, the CIB's legal advisor for enforcement. "A lot of people think the FCC doesn't care."

Hollingsworth will be the FCC's point man in handling the complaints. He says FCC Chairman William Kennard "wants greater respect with respect to enforcement" at the FCC. Putting enforcement in the CIB's hands should mean "a much faster, more effective response," he said.

ARRL General Counsel Chris Imlay, W3KD, says he's "cautiously optimistic" that the change will improve the dismal amateur enforcement situation. "Now, CIB doesn't have to just gather evidence and forward it to another bureau," Imlay said. "It can act on it when it is ready. That's a good situation compared to where we were."

The FCC's public notice said the CIB staff now handles Amateur Radio enforcement matters "from initiation to resolution." That includes complaints, amateur testing issues, warnings, monetary penalties, revocation hearings, and "in extreme cases" equipment seizure and prosecution through the Department of Justice.

The Wireless Bureau continues to handle Amateur Radio licensing, including new applications and renewals, as well as all Amateur Radio policy and rulemaking matters. The change is expected to have no impact on the Amateur Auxiliary. Hollingsworth said the change could, in fact, mean that the FCC will work more closely and more effectively with amateur volunteers in dealing with enforcement issues.

Under the new arrangement, all amateur enforcement questions and complaints should be directed to the Compliance and Information Bureau, Compliance Division, Attention: Amateur Complaints, 1919 M St, Mail Stop 1500E1, Washington, DC 20554.

The FCC also has instituted an "Amateur Enforcement Line" at 202-418-1184. The automated system prompts callers to leave a name, a number, and a brief message. The CIB will return the call within the next business day. <>

OTVARC BUNCH FOR LUNCH

By Harold, WA0BRU

November's get-together will take place at the *Panda Buffet*, a Chinese restaurant, on Saturday, November 28th, the fourth Saturday, right after Thanksgiving. The restaurant is located at 11940 SW Pacific Highway in Tigard (on the north side of Pac. Highway).

The time of meeting will be **1:30PM**. All club members and friends are invited – no dress up is required. Come on down and join the fun.

Call Julie, or me, at 620-5041 with any questions. <>

Mary Berg, N7TRW, our Health and Welfare Committee Chairperson reports that Doc Miller, W7GWC, of Seaside, OR, and a former long time member, recently had a triple by-pass heart operation. He is feeling much better now and his recovery appears to be coming along nicely.

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(Continued from page 5 - AMATEUR RADIO OPERATORS ASSIST)

members during a community event, and one of their goals was to involve as many volunteers as possible throughout the weekend. With over 200,000 people expected at the celebration, the Fire Department called upon the volunteers to assist with dispatch for medical calls. A net control operator and four teams, each comprised of one amateur radio operator and one CERT member, rotated through five 4-hour shifts to provide a total of 24 hours of coverage over the two-day event.

The teams patrolled the event and maintained contact with net control at the Fire Station, located just one block from the event. In the event of a medical emergency, the teams could call net control to coordinate dispatching a Fire Department crew to the scene. The plan worked very well and, fortunately, there were no major medical emergencies.

The teams were put to good use, however, by the crowds enjoying the festivities. Easily spotting their neon yellow hats and orange safety vests, the teams were treated as "information central," answering questions ranging from how to board the MAX to the best place to eat Mexican food! The city of Hillsboro extends a heartfelt "thank you" to each of the volunteers and looks forward to using them again for similar events in the future.

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NW EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM RODEO DECLARED A SUCCESS WITH HELP FROM HAMS!

By Sharon Kennedy, KD7CWP,
Emergency Manager, City of Hillsboro

When 90 Community Emergency Response Team volunteers from six different jurisdictions gathered for a friendly disaster skills competition, it was the ten amateur radio operators we counted on to divert a few of the disasters!

The NW Emergency Response Team Rodeo was held Saturday, October 24th, at the Portland Fire Bureau Training Center. (Maybe you caught us on that evening's news on channels 6, 8, and 12?) The Rodeo mixed CERT members and amateur radio operators from Portland, Hillsboro, Lake Oswego, Oregon City, Hoodland, and Clark County. The CERT members were divided into eight teams, each accompanied by an amateur radio operator. The remaining two amateur radio operators staffed "Exercise Control." The teams rotated through a series of nine activity stations spread out over several acres of campus.

Skill drills included a fire extinguisher relay, a search maze, triaging a disaster scene, splinting and bandaging, and extricating a victim from underneath a concrete slab. The victims were "moulaged" with very realistic makeup to simulate lacerations, broken bones, bruises, shock, internal bleeding, and various other injuries, to further pump up the participants' already high adrenaline level!

The demonstrations included knot tying, chainsaw safety, disaster hygiene, and K-9 search and rescue.

Sticking to our tight time schedule was critical, as we had nine activity rotations to complete during the 7-hour event. Several vendors were also on hand to show us their emergency preparedness products, and the American Red Cross was there with their mobile canteen to serve drinks and cookies. The potential for losing track of team members was a concern.

We relied upon Exercise Control to ensure each team moved to the correct location at each rotation and to keep the rotations on schedule. As expected, the hams kept things moving smoothly.

Many of the CERT members had not worked with amateur radio volunteers before, and we made new believers out of them! At the end of the day, both amateur radio and CERT volunteers declared the Rodeo a success! The training was great and everyone made a few new friends. Each participant took home a commemorative NW ERT Rodeo T-shirt and a carabiner.

Let me take this opportunity to say "thank you" to each of the hams who volunteered: Harold Landers, WA0BRU; Jim Jones, NT7T; Alan Chinnock, KB7POR; Bob Young, KB7MFD; Terry Holm, W7ZRS; Elizabeth Kerr, KB7VKZ; Ed Burrell, KC7GFX; Glen Jones, KC7MBM; John Larsen, KC7TXB; and Bert Younglove, WA7AXO.

And a special "thank you" goes to Alan Chinnock for organizing the amateur radio side of the event. Alan handled all the communications details that would have otherwise fallen on the design team, and we are grateful for that. (Plus he did a much better job than we could have!)

The CERT training is available to anyone who lives or works in one of the six sponsoring jurisdictions. Please call me if you are interested in taking the training. If CERT isn't available in your area, I can help you write a letter to the appropriate officials to put some pressure on!

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THE FOUR C's OF EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS

By W7OTV, Author unknown

The best advice for anyone performing emergency communications can be summarized by the four C's: Calm, Courteous, Correct, and Concise.

CALM: Try to keep emotion out of your voice. No matter what the emergency, a calm, professional attitude will help keep things cool and get the message through more quickly and accurately. Losing your cool, calm attitude may cost an important message. The more reason you have for getting excited, the more important it is for you to remain calm. As an emergency communications volunteer, you

(Continued on page 7)

SPECIAL OLYMPICS

By Ken, K7SXI

Oregon Special Olympics is committed to involving families, extended families, and care providers of Special Olympic athletes in the joys of Special Olympics programs. Families are the most influential and valuable resource. They help coach, transport, raise funds, officiate, chaperon and train other volunteers.

In the summer of 1963, Eunice Kennedy Shriver brought 100 children and adults with mental retardation together for a summer camp experience. That was the humble beginning of what is now an international organization that provides year round sports training programs and competition for children and adults with mental retardation.

There are now over 5500 Special Olympics athletes participating in 18 sports throughout Oregon.

Washington County Special Olympics (WCSO) is one of 14 area programs that make up Oregon Special Olympics. The programs of WCSO are open to Washington County residents eight years of age and older who are considered to have mental retardation or closely related developmental disabilities that limit functioning, both in learning and in adaptive skills.

Today over 800 athletes from all sectors of the community, including schools, group homes, and those who live with their parents and guardians, participate in WCSO programs. WCSO offers 18 sports year around. They include: alpine skiing, tennis, ice skating, gymnastics, volleyball, softball, golf, equestrian, aquatics, soccer long distance running and walking, team and singles bowling, and roller skating.

Athletes can advance to seasonal State competitions after first competing in a qualifying event such as a sectional or area competition. International events are also held involving athletes from many countries.

Over 1400 volunteers participate in WCSO, coaching sports and helping with events and fund raising. As an area program of Oregon Special Olympics, WCSO is responsible for raising a major portion of its own finances. All money raised and received goes toward supporting and expanding WCSO sports programs. No County, State, Federal, or United Way financial support is received. WCSO is a non profit organization supported by private donations.

That is Special Olympics as I know it. Volunteers are essential to make the programs successful. Although some are parents of a disabled athlete, the majority volunteer because they feel good about helping. It can be rewarding as well as frustrating. A sense of humor is absolutely necessary. I have assisted in coaching bowling, track and field, and softball. That does not mean I am an expert in any of them. I have never bowled, but I do know how to run the console, keep score, and get the bowlers in the proper lane when they alternate lanes during a game.

The Special Olympics oath is: "Let me win. If I cannot win, let me be brave in the attempt."

Here are just a few of the incidents that make coaching frustrating at times and really fun all the time:

"Brent after you hit the ball run to first base. Do not run to the pitcher for a hug as you did at practice;"

"Pam throw the ball to first base. Don't hold it like a long lost friend. We all saw you catch it, good job."

During Washington County's first time in a State competition in which a relay baton is passed, there was much confusion. No one knows who won. The runners changed lanes and passed the baton to the other team's members.

"Rob run to-second base. First base is going to be crowded when the batter who just hit the ball gets there."

The Washington County Jaguars got three outs in about a minute. Rob and the following batter were on first base together. An automatic two outs. The next batter was afraid to bat for some unknown reason. The third out.

"Run Marshall run "Marshall fell down over two years ago at an aerobics class. His two front teeth were reinserted by an oral surgeon at St. Vincent's Hospital. It has been over two years and with a lot of help he has gotten enough confidence back to run around the bases. He used to run the 400 meter event, but now does the 400 meter walk.

All the teams generally have the same problems so it is pretty fair competition. Coaches can cause an automatic out also. A batter batting out of the roster batting order is an out. So it is important to keep order in the bullpen with everyone anxious to bat.

There are many styles of Special Olympics bowling. From the real professional to the 'roll it down the ramp' type for the severely handicapped. Everyone deserves a medal or ribbon. Yes, everyone gets a medal or ribbon. Each heat in each event awards medals and ribbons to each participant. Only a participant ribbon is awarded to a person who violates a rule. Such as running during a walking event.

Each State event closes with a banquet and a dance with a live and loud band. Country and rock and roll naturally. It's like a family reunion with over a thousand relatives who haven't seen each other since the last State event. <>

AMATEUR RADIO OPERATORS ASSIST WITH MEDICAL DISPATCH

by KD7CWP, Sharon Kennedy
Emergency Manager, City of Hillsboro

The Hillsboro Fire Department put 30 amateur radio operators and 24 Community Emergency Response Team members to good use during the Westside MAX opening celebration in downtown Hillsboro on September 12th and 13th.

This was Hillsboro's first use of amateur radio operators and CERT

(Continued on page 6)

(Continued from page 6 - THE FOUR C's)

should set a good, calm example for the other people to follow. **COURTEOUS:** You must think of yourself as a public servant. Regardless of provocation, remain courteous at all times. Never display temper on the air. Remember the "Golden Rule" at all times and practice it. Never fight with other operators over calls or reports. Always follow the instructions of the Net Control Station - whether you agree with those instructions or not. Most problems can wait until after the emergency situation is over. If some problem absolutely must be ironed out, do it by telephone or on another frequency - not on the net.

CORRECT: Work to keep errors out of your communications. Use the phonetic alphabet and repeat the message where appropriate to get names, locations, and other information accurately. Write everything down for reference. Remember, your role is communications - you are not in charge of anything - most communications will be between the people who are in charge - when the Emergency Operations Center or Net Control Station asks a question, go get the answer from the person responsible, don't just give your best guess. It is always better to admit you don't know rather than give out information that is wrong. Always use plain language -- Don't use jargon, Q-signals, 10-codes, etc., which may not be understood by everyone. Avoid using specialized words and codes, even those of the agency you are supporting unless the message is going specifically to the same agency.

CONCISE: Your job as an emergency communications volunteer is to get the message transferred while also allowing time for the other operators to get their messages transferred. Avoid tying up the net by keeping your transmissions as brief as possible. Always leave a few seconds between transmissions in case someone needs to break in with an emergency call. A strictly business attitude is your best technique for assuring time saving communications.

You must consider the conditions - if everyone is full quieting, there is little need to spell words, but if conditions aren't good or the word is particularly difficult, then it makes sense to spell it.

Don't rush - speaking a little bit slower often gets the message through faster because the other operator doesn't have to ask for repeats. Don't assume everyone has a pad and pencil instantly ready when you need to send them a long or complex message - ask first, it saves time in the long run."

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AREA VE TESTING SCHEDULED

By Editor, W7OTV

Phantom Amateur Radio Club (PARG)

Second and fourth Sunday of each month
Contact John, KA0SSF, at 503-626-7399

Salem Amateur Radio Club

Third Saturday of each month
Contact Sandy, N7TQQ, at 1-800-920-9604

Clark County Amateur Radio Club

Contact 360-896-8909

Portland Adventist Radio Club

Portland Community Policing Center
Contact Edith, KA7MIF, at 642-5803

Hoodview Amateur Radio Club

Contact Patsy, W7PAT, at 503-668-4305

Oregon Tualatin Valley Amateur Radio Club

5 Dec. Testing will be at the TV Fire & Rescue Bldg.,
20665 SW Blanton in Aloha., from 1PM TO 5PM.
Contact Carl Clawson at 503-629-5796 or 526-4610 if
further details are needed.

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FCC ISSUES UNIVERSAL LICENSING SYSTEM RULES

From The ARRL Letter

The FCC has issued its long-awaited Report and Order on the Universal Licensing System, which affects all Wireless Telecommunications Bureau licensees. Among other things, the ULS will result in replacing Amateur Radio's familiar FCC Form 610 series with a new Form 605. The new rules become official 60 days after publication in The Federal Register - sometime around the end of the year. The FCC said it expects to have the ULS fully operational by next April. Using the ULS, applicants and licensees will be able to file, modify, and renew electronically. Access to the ULS is via:

<http://www.fcc.gov/wtb/uls/>.

The FCC's action consolidates approximately 40 existing forms into four ULS applications, including the new Form 605. Electronic filing in the ULS will not yet be mandatory for individual amateurs. Hams will have the option of filing electronically or on paper. However, electronic filing via the ULS will be required for Volunteer Examiner Coordinators in the Amateur Service.

Under the ULS, amateurs will use Form 605, the Quick-Form Application for Authorization in the Ship, Aircraft, Amateur, Restricted and Commercial Operator, and General Mobile Radio Services for all purposes. Applicants may continue to use the old forms for six months after the new rules go into effect, however.

(Continued on page 8)

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(Continued from page 7 - FCC ISSUES ULS RULES)

Responding to comments from the ARRL and the W5YI Group, the FCC said it would include the Physician's Certification of Disability (Physician's Certification) on the new Form 605 in Part 2 of Schedule D.

As part of its Report and Order on the ULS, the FCC also issued amended rules (in WT Docket 96-188) to authorize visiting foreign hams to operate in the US pursuant to recent international reciprocal operating agreements. "We conclude that all alien amateur radio reciprocal operation should be authorized by rule," the FCC said. This means that foreign hams holding a CEPT radio-amateur license from a CEPT country or an International Amateur Radio Permit issued by a participating CITEL country may operate while visiting the US without having to apply for permission. Additionally, it will be easier for US hams to operate in participating countries in Europe and the Americas.

Against ARRL objections, the FCC eliminated the one-year term for an alien reciprocal permit and will not require an FCC license document. The FCC noted that the new system is similar to the one already in place for US and Canadian hams to operate in each other's countries. The authority would not extend to US citizens claiming second citizenship and an amateur license from another country, however.

The FCC said it will require the submission of a Taxpayer Identification Number by applicants and licensees using ULS, "consistent with the requirements of the Debt Collection Improvement Act of 1996." Some commenters, particularly amateur operators, argued against the requirement, saying that disclosure of a TIN—typically a Social Security Number—raised privacy concerns and was unnecessary to the Commission's regulatory goals. But, the FCC said its security measures will limit access to TIN data both online and to FCC staff. "Once data has been entered into ULS, sensitive data such as TINs will not be accessible to the public," the FCC said. The FCC has not addressed how it plans to handle applicants who do not have a TIN, such as foreign nationals who hold FCC licenses.

The FCC stood by its plan to use certain eligible private-sector entities, on a strictly voluntary basis, to issue club and military recreation station call signs.

Both text and formatted versions of the complete Report and Order, WT Dockets 98-20 and 96-188, are available on the FCC Web site, <http://www.fcc.gov>. <>

(Continued from page 1, THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE)

October's test session. Let's see if we can encourage even greater participation for the next session.

Many club members helped out on the Walk to Cure Diabetes (formerly called Walktoberfest) and the Portland Marathon. One of our very own club members, Wes Allen, K7WWG, walked the entire 26.2 miles of the marathon.

As you can see the club is very active. Come join the fun. Come help us celebrate our common interests. See you at November's meeting.
73, Betty

146.96 REPEATER GROUP MEETING

By Chuck KI7CL

The first meeting of the 146.96 repeater group was held on October 22nd, to begin future planning. The group selected Al Berg, W7SIC as chairman, with Phil Teck, N7OY as co-chairman. Will Sheffield, N7THL agreed to take minutes for the meeting. It was decided to hold open meetings, to encourage the participation of all interested parties. So, look for future meeting announcements in the Oscillator.

The first meeting was a face-to-face opportunity for sharing ideas, and now the group can begin to establish some formal repeater policies and procedures. The group is still looking for comments and suggestions, so please feel free to attend any meeting, or forward your written comments to the Club PO box (attention Repeater group), or you may E-mail them to me at ki7cl@juno.com. <>

SANTA CLAUS NEEDS OUR HELP

By Jimn, KB7ADH

On Friday morning on November 27 (that's the day after Thanksgiving) Santa Claus will make his annual grand entry into downtown Portland in the Holiday Parade. Guess what! He can't do it without Ham Radio support. Operators are needed to monitor strategic intersections along the parade route to report start and end times as well as any problems or safety concerns which may occur. All you need is a 440 Mhz. handheld and the desire to have fun while watching a parade. You can even bring the family to "help" you watch the parade. And..... of course the Christmas shopping season starts right after the parade. Call Jim Schaeffer, KB7ADH, 503-2452518 if you can help. As of Oct 30, we still need at least 5 more Hams. <>

OTVARC DECEMBER 5TH WEDNESDAY SIMPLEX CONTEST

By Jim, KB7ADH

Want to generate a pile-up with your two meter handheld? You can! Just join in on the 5th Wednesday Simplex Contest on Wednesday evening December 30. The contest will be held on 147.420 simplex from 20:00 hours to 21:00 hours local time. That's from 8:00pm to 9:00pm. The object is to work as many different zip codes as possible on the frequency during the hour of the contest. It really is fun; especially when a "now one pops up about half way through the hour, and also, when someone is scanning the band and just checks in to see what is going on. To use a worn out phrase, "Try It, You'll Like It." Rules and Contest Summery sheet will be in the December Newsletter. <>

OTVARC Club Contacts

OTVARC Executive Board

| | | | |
|----------------|------------------|--------|----------|
| President | Betty Mickley | N7REX | 642-1284 |
| Vice President | J.D. Fort | KC7EHT | 259-0269 |
| Secretary | Dale LeBarron | W7FBP | 638-7768 |
| Treasurer | Hanford Van Ness | KE7BB | 246-7975 |
| Trustee | Jack Smithson | KA7HOJ | 646-1873 |
| Trustee | Will Sheffield | N7THL | 642-7314 |
| Trustee | Janet Bell | WB7FJC | 648-4147 |
| Trustee | Al Berg | W7SIC | 640-5456 |
| Trustee | Maureen O'Rourke | KA7LAP | 591-9641 |

Other Club Contacts

| | | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------|--------|----------|
| ARRL Coordinator | Bob Orr | WF7Q | 472-2716 |
| Bunny Hunting | OPEN | | |
| Contesting | OPEN | | |
| DX News | OPEN | | |
| Equipment Loan | Stan Griffiths | W7NI | 649-0837 |
| Equipment Valuation | Randy Stimson | KZ7T | 297-1175 |
| Equipment Trustee | Al Berg | W7SIC | 640-5456 |
| Emergency Services | J.D. Fort | K7JDF | 259-0269 |
| Field Day Coordinator | Alan Chinnock | KB7POR | 636-2237 |
| Health & Welfare | Mary Berg | N7TRW | 640-5456 |
| Historian | Al Berg | W7SIC | 640-5456 |
| Internet Home Page | Marc Chamberlin | WA7PXW | 357-1869 |
| Member Badges | Carl Clawson | WS7L | 629-5796 |
| Newsletter Editor | Dale LeBarron | W7FBP | 638-7768 |
| Newsletter Layout | Dale LeBarron | W7FBP | 638-7768 |
| Newsletter Distribution | Al Berg | W7SIC | 640-5456 |
| Nominating Committee | OPEN | | |
| Packet - Club BBS | Rick Braun | KB7OGD | 645-1490 |
| Project Night | Alan Chinnock | KB7POR | 636-2237 |
| | Chuck Mickley | KI7CL | 652-1284 |
| Public Relations | J.D. Fort | K7JDF | 259-0269 |
| Public Service | Randy Stimson | KZ7T | 297-1175 |
| Repeater | Wes Allen | K7WWG | 649-3295 |
| RFI & TVI | Dale Mosby | K7FW | 640-0217 |
| Satellites | OPEN | | |
| Scholarship | Carl Clawson | WS7L | 629-5796 |
| Sea-Pac | Al Berg | W7SIC | 640-5456 |
| " | Brad Beach | N7NVC | 657-1781 |
| " | Jim Schaeffer | KB7ADH | 245-2518 |
| " | Randy Stimson | KZ7T | 297-1175 |
| " | Will Sheffield | N7THL | 642-7314 |
| Station Trustee | Chuck Mickley | KI7CL | 642-3713 |
| Social | Harold Landers | WA0BRU | 620-5041 |
| Technical Specialist | Stan Griffiths | W7NI | 649-0837 |
| Tower Ordinances | Greg Milnes | W7AGQ | 648-6990 |
| Trailer | Dee Lynch | KA7NPN | 646-4580 |
| Training(code) | Burt Rooke(PCC) | KI7JX | 241-2891 |
| Training(Novice/Tech) | Jim Mockley | AB7XD | 629-9354 |
| Training(upgrade) | OPEN | | |
| VE Test Coordinator | Carl Clawson | WS7L | 629-5796 |
| VHF/UHF | Arnold Jensen | N7YAG | 543-3713 |

OTVARC Club Information

Purpose: The Oregon Tualatin Valley Amateur Radio Club, a Not-for-profit corporation, wants to be instrumental in helping the prospective as well as established Amateur to become a proficient communicator in the Amateur Radio Service.

Additionally, the intent is to promote the advancement of Amateur Radio Service, through the following five objectives:

1. Education & Training of new and licensed Amateurs.
2. Public Service during public events & community activities.
3. Emergency communications during emergencies & disasters.
4. Hobby enhancement through meetings, nets & contests.
5. Social contact with other amateurs & interested persons.

Special Service Club: OTVARC is an ARRL Special Service Club. The ARRL grants us this distinction due to our participation in emergency preparedness exercises, public service events and other service-oriented programs. In addition, continuing educational and training programs are conducted for FCC licenses. OTVARC benefits from you joining the ARRL through OTVARC. To join or renew your membership in the ARRL, contact the treasurer at any regular meeting.

Newsletter: The *OTVARC Oscillator* is the club newsletter. It is published monthly and is usually mailed on the first of the month. The opinions, views, and recommendations of its contributors are not necessarily those of the club, its officers, advertisers or the editorial staff.

Correspondence: All correspondence may be sent to OTVARC, PO Box 5132, Aloha, OR 97006-0132.

Advertising: Classified ads are free to all paid up members. Display ads are available to approved commercial interests. To place an ad, mail your camera ready copy to the address above and indicate the size desired. All display ads run for six months at a time, from January through June and July through December. All ads must be paid for in advance. Rates are as follows:

| | | |
|-----------|----------|----------------------|
| Full page | 8" X 10" | \$200 for six months |
| Half page | 8" X 5" | \$120 for six months |
| Qtr page | 4" X 5" | \$72 for six months |
| Bus. Card | 2" X 3" | \$36 for six months |

Meetings: We have two meetings per month. The board meeting is on the fourth Wednesday of each month. All club business is conducted at this meeting. All members are welcome to attend. Contact the President for location and time. The general meeting is on the second Wednesday of each month at the Beaverton Elks Lodge. 3500 SW 104th Ave. (1 block north of Canyon Road). Meetings start at 7PM. If you would like to come early, you can get a nice meal from the Elks for less than \$6.00.

Membership: OTVARC is open to anyone who is interested in amateur radio. You do not need to be a licensed radio amateur to join. Dues are as follows: Full member, \$10/yr; Associate member (non-licensed), \$10/yr; Family members of full member, \$5/yr; Life memberships available - see the Treasurer. Only full members and life members may vote on club business and serve as club officers. All memberships expire on the last day of the calendar year. If you would like to join during the year, see the club treasurer for prorated dues.

How to join: Simply mail the Membership application and/or renewal form along with your dues to the address above.

WORLDWIDE DISTRIBUTION



Ray McCarty
Manager
KI7TN

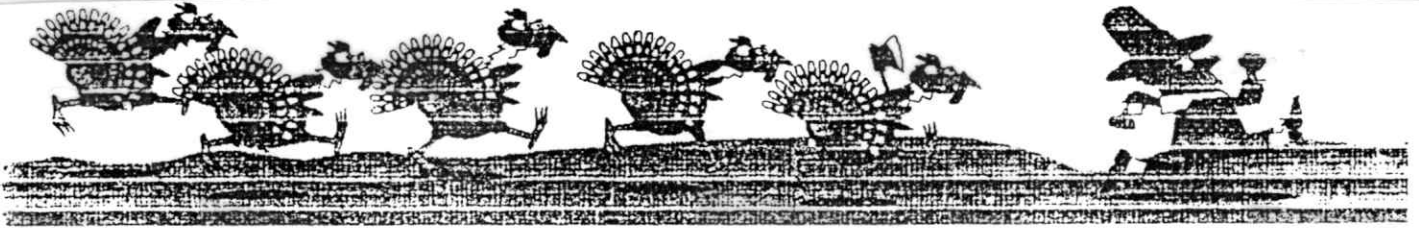
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1998 marks OTVARC's twentieth year as an active club!

Please help celebrate this anniversary by contacting any club officer with your ideas on possible anniversary activities.

OTVARC TRAVELERS THANKSGIVING CAMPOUT



WANDERING SPIRIT RV PARK GRANDE RONDE

November 20-21-22

The Travelers furnish the ham and turkey for this planned pot luck. Please call to find out what you need to bring. Items are negotiable. The pot-luck is at 5:30 on Saturday. Come join us for a fun weekend and be sure to take a look at the newly remodeled casino. You might even win enough to pay for your weekend out. Call Mary-640-5456 or Marvel-292-3261.

HAPPY THANKSGIVING TO ALL

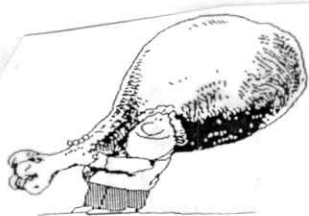
OTVARC

Oregon Tualatin Valley ARC

PO Box 5132

Aloha, OR 97006-0132

Address Correction Requested



Dates to remember!

November 11 – Veterans Day

November 26 – Have a Happy

Thanksgiving Day!